

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/743,863

Examiner

John B. Stregre

Applicant(s)

NAGANO, MIKI

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the appeal brief filed 2/25/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6 and 8-14.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>8/31/05</u> |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

1. This action is in response to the Appeal Brief filed 2/25/05.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Gang Luo Reg. Number 50,559 on 8/30/05.

In the Claims:

Cancel Claim 7.

In claim 1 insert "; the image-processing apparatus further including a memory that stores image-processing data commonly used by the respective image processing sections, wherein the image processing section set to the first operation mode can write the image-processing data, which is fed from the control section, to the memory, and in addition, can read out the image-processing data written in the memory; and wherein the image processing section set to the second operation mode can input the image-processing data read out by the image processing section set to the first operation mode from the memory" between --timing-- and --.-- on line 16.

Add new **claim 14** The image-processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising: a scan converter that outputs synchronization signals as a basis for the same timing.

The amendment was made in order to distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art of record Fukunaga et al. as discussed below in the reasons for allowance. Claim 14 was a requested amendment that was not entered after final in the advisory action.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see the Appeal Brief, filed 2/25/05, with respect to the master-slave relationship as disclosed not being inherent (see page 12 section c) have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of the claims has been withdrawn.

Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 1-6, and 8-14 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: None of the prior art discloses in combination with the other limitations of the claim an image-processing apparatus wherein each of the image processing sections are capable of being set to one of a first operation mode allowing reading and writing with the control section, and a second operation mode allowing only reception from the control section, wherein when a command is given from the control section to the one of the image processing sections that is set to the first operation mode, the n image processing sections individually execute the same processing with the same timing.

As seen in figure 4 Fukunaga discloses n image processing sections (4-1 – 4-11) which receive n consecutive pixel data items that are respectively input with the same timing and which respectively process the respective input pixel data items with the same timing, n representing an integer equal to at least “2” (col. 6 lines 22-61); and a control section that controls the n image processing sections (display control processor 12 is connected to each of the processors through the bus 1); wherein each of the image processing sections are capable of being set to one of a first operation mode allowing data communication with the control section (processor 4-1 is set to a first mode or master mode, also 4-1 reads data from the control section which is data communication), and a second operation mode allowing only reception from the control section (processors 4-2 are not set to master mode thus they must be set to slave mode, processors 4-2 also allows only reception from the display control thus reading on the limitation of the claim, also it is noted that each processor is identical as evidenced by col. 6 lines 48-50 thus each are capable of being set to the master or slave mode), one of the image processing sections is set to the first operation mode (4-1 master mode), and n-1 of the image processing sections are set tot the second operation mode (4-2 – 4-11); wherein commands are commonly given to the n image processing sections from the control section (via the bus 1 from the display control section) and wherein, when a command is given from the control section to the one of the image processing sections that is set to the first operation mode, the n image processing sections individually execute the same processing with the same timing (col. 6 lines 57-61). Fukunaga does not disclose that the first processor enables reading and

writing. Examiner agrees with the Applicant's arguments that it is not inherent for a master-slave relationship to allow reading and writing from the master and only reception from the slave. Thus the claim as amended by Examiner's amendment overcomes the Fukunaga reference and claim 1 is allowable over the prior art. Claims 2-6, and 8-14 are dependent on claim 1 and thus allowable for the same reasons given for claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

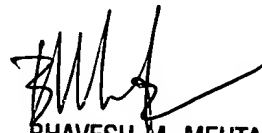
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John B. Strege whose telephone number is (571) 272-7457. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday between the hours of 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on (571) 272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JS



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